

ASQUITH TO MAKE HIS CHOICE TO-DAY

Cabinet Must Drop Colonel Seely or See Chief of Staff Go.

COMMONS TO HEAR PREMIER'S DECISION

Officers Listen to Haldane's Representations, but Refuse to Withdraw Resignations.

(By Cable to The Tribune.) London, March 29.—The Parliamentary week which opens to-day should decide the fate of the government. A definite statement may be expected this afternoon on the subject of the resignations of Sir John French and Sir John Ewart. If they refuse definitely to withdraw from the position they have taken it is difficult to see how Colonel Seely can remain at the head of the War Office.

At first the two generals were inclined to yield to the representations of Viscount Haldane and the other emissaries of the government that the issue of the new army order and of the statement that the Prime Minister had nothing in contemplation against Ulster that would not be amply covered by these regulations should amply reassure them, but during the week end they have apparently been convinced that they cannot without a fatal loss of prestige continue to sit on the Army Council after the repudiation of the document bearing their initials.

The question was at last narrowed down to this: Were the officers to go or was the repudiation to be recalled? The government, while willing, as shown in Premier Asquith's speech on Friday, to repudiate the sense of Colonel Seely's paragraphs was bound to decline to stultify itself so far as to renege on it. On this rock the negotiations split, and it is scarcely possible that there can be another change of mind before the Prime Minister makes his final statement this afternoon.

The "Conservative morning papers" assert positively that Field Marshal Sir John French and General Ewart have decided not to withdraw their resignations.

It is stated that General Gough has left the Curragh camp to spend a week's holiday at some place in Ireland which is known only to a few friends. Before leaving he directed that no further information should be given by officers for publication. The guarantee given to the general by the Army Council has not been revoked, and the officers who have tendered their resignations are still firm in the attitude which they have assumed in relation to Ulster. They angrily resent the political complexion placed on their action, and this anger has been intensified by the political tone of the various communications addressed to them at the Curragh camp. It seems, too, that they equally resent the congratulations of the Unionists and the condemnation of the Radicals. General Gough has deposited the famous document which has already wrecked the government and which may yet do so with his family solicitors, on their undertaking that it will remain in safe keeping as a charter of the rights of the conscientious officers who refuse to force Ulstermen.

Belfast, March 29.—Late to-night three uniformed Ulster volunteers were attached near Carrick Hill by a crowd of Nationalists. The police dispersed the attacking party, and there were no further disturbances. One of the volunteers was so badly injured that he had to be conveyed to a hospital.

VIOLINIST'S EATING STUN SHIP STEWARD

Prisoner on the Philadelphia Began Lightest Meal with Eight Eggs.

A new financial problem came to the notice of marine experts yesterday when the American liner Philadelphia arrived from Cherbourg with Detective Edmund Leigh and his prisoner, Josef Von Slenozki, a Polish violinist.

Chief Steward Bell never had a passenger with such an enormous appetite as that displayed by Leigh's prisoner on the run from Cherbourg.

The violinist's breakfast, his lightest meal of the day, is reported to have consisted of eight eggs, a steak, four potatoes, two kippered herrings, one dish of oatmeal, four stuffed tomatoes, two oranges, one grapefruit, five crackers, seven rolls and two cups of coffee.

While Mr. Bell is always anxious to have a man eat his fill, the proposition of the company insuring itself against such an appetite may be considered.

Von Slenozki is charged with having left the country with two violins valued at \$4,000 and owned by a local violin maker.

Detective Leigh took his prisoner to the Elizabeth street police station.

Italian R. R. Strike Threatened.

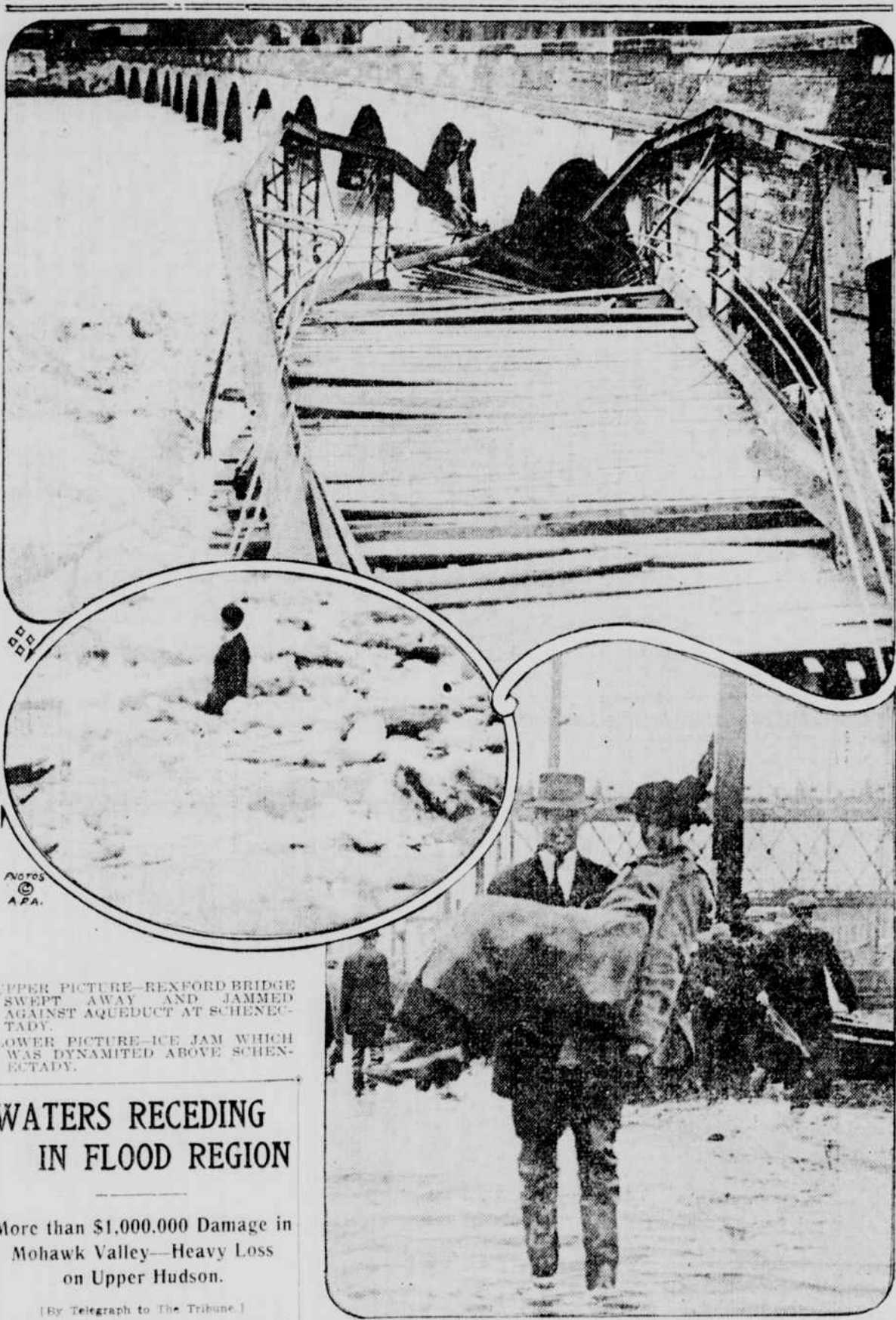
Rome, March 29.—Another general railway strike is threatened at an early date in Italy. Railway employees to the number of 80,000 are agitating for an amelioration of their conditions of employment which would represent an increase of \$10,000,000 in the state budget. It has been decided that if the government refuses to give a satisfactory answer to the demands of the men a general railway strike will be proclaimed on April 15.

Serious reprisals are threatened if the government attempts the militarization of the railway men, which means calling them out under arms and enforcing military discipline.

Japanese Empress Still Ill.

Tokyo, March 29.—The Dowager Empress Haruko, who is suffering from influenza pectoris, continues in a serious condition at the Imperial villa at Yonaka, a watering place south of Yokohama. Court physicians are in attendance.

FLOOD DAMAGE IN THE MOHAWK VALLEY.



UPPER PICTURE—REXFORD BRIDGE SWEEPED AWAY AND JAMMED AGAINST AQUEDUCT AT SCHENECTADY. LOWER PICTURE—ICE JAM WHICH WAS DYNAMITED ABOVE SCHENECTADY.

WATERS RECEDING IN FLOOD REGION

More than \$1,000,000 Damage in Mohawk Valley—Heavy Loss on Upper Hudson.

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.) Albany, March 29.—With the Mohawk and Hudson rivers receding slowly to-night, a cessation of rainfall throughout both watersheds and a colder turn in the weather, the flood situation is much improved.

Only one ice gorge remains in the Mohawk River main channel. That is at Schenectady, but the stream is being diverted around two islands and the water is not backing up.

At Newport, four miles west of Herkimer, there is a dangerous ice gorge in the West Canada Creek, and the situation continues to be alarming at Herkimer.

At Schenectady the Mohawk had receded ten feet at midnight from the record high water of yesterday noon, twenty-five feet. The Mohawk flood was two feet higher than the previous flood of last year.

Reports from all towns in the Mohawk Valley show bettered conditions. It had not been for the better because canal dam above Utica, the city of Utica would have suffered tremendous loss. As it was, the Utica high water was three feet more than last year.

In the Mohawk Valley the Scotia bridge, at Schenectady, is the only bridge left standing between Tribble's Hill and Crescent, a distance of forty miles. The Scotia bridge, although damaged by the flood, was opened to street cars and foot traffic to-day.

The 350 families who were driven from their homes in Schenectady were permitted by the police and health authorities to return to them to-day.

Schenectady greatly fears a disease epidemic, for the flood waters have left great amounts of filth and rubbish in cellars and about buildings through a large area which was covered with water.

Dr. J. L. Schoellkopf, head of the Schenectady Health Department, said to-night the department intended to do nothing to relieve conditions. He intimated it would be up to individual citizens to clean their premises. Mayor J. Teller Schoellkopf backed up the health officer in this assertion. Schenectady citizens declared they would notify the State Health Department of the situation to-morrow.

The loss at Schenectady is now estimated at \$750,000, the total loss in the Mohawk Valley at \$1,250,000 and the loss in the Hudson Valley at \$500,000. On the Hudson the principal places to suffer are Troy, Watervliet, Albany and Rensselaer.

Elmira, N. Y., March 29.—Reports reaching here to-night from towns in the southern tier indicate that fear of serious damage from floods has been passed. Waters of divers small creeks, which last night had reached high freshet conditions, began to recede this morning and are still going down.

There has been no rain here all day and the Chemung River has been receding rapidly.

DEER SAIL ON ICE FLOE

Two Safely Navigate the Nevversink River and Escape.

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.) Port Jervis, N. Y., March 29.—Two deer, standing erect and looking neither to the right nor the left, passed here this afternoon on an ice floe in the Nevversink River. Thousands who were watching the swiftly moving waters shouted at the deer, but they paid no heed, and disappeared down stream in a mass of ice, piggins, henhouses, lumber of all kinds and debris of every description.

It was learned to-night that at the confluence of the Delaware and Nevversink the floe was driven near the shore and the deer jumped off and made for the Jersey mountains. Information from Oakland, Sullivan County, says that the animals were seen in the river at that point before noon. Spectators here tried to keep up with the deer, but the raging waters ran so swiftly that they were soon outdistanced.

On the vital topic of the British navy's

ENGLAND MISTRESS OF SEA AND AIR

Winston Churchill Says British Navy Leads World in Flying.

HAS 62 SEAPLANES AND 625 AVIATORS

Marine Warfare To-day is Like Eggshells Fighting Each Other with Hammers.

London, March 29.—William Ewart Gladstone was the last British statesman who could make popular reading with a speech expounding the annual budget of government appropriations. Winston Churchill has done the same thing for the naval estimates. The young First Lord of the Admiralty compelled the House of Commons to listen for two and a half hours while he gave a review of the latest achievements in naval science, so interesting that even the "little navy" men kept their seats to the end.

Battle between great modern ironclads the First Lord described as "more like a battle between two eggshells striking each other with hammers" than two men in armor striking at each other with heavy swords. "The offensive power of modern battle ships is out of proportion to their defensive power. Never was the disproportion so marked. In the light of that illustration the awful importance of good gunnery must come home to us—the importance of hitting first and hitting hard, and keeping on hitting, and the necessity of spending money in arriving at the highest possible efficiency."

Mr. Churchill believes that the British navy leads the world in flying. His personal exploits in that direction have been criticized as foolhardy for one of his position. He promised to give his fellow members a unique exhibition later in the session, by bringing a fleet of airships over the Parliament buildings, "if the House will take it kindly," he remarked, "in order to remove the doubts which lurk in some breasts as to the existence of aircraft in possession either of the naval or military services."

England Has 15 Airships.

The Admiralty now possesses fifteen airships, ten of which are large vessels of more than forty-five miles an hour speed, with sixty-two seaplanes and forty-one ordinary aeroplanes. Mr. Churchill declared his belief in the future of the aeroplane, but admitted that the airship had advantages in greater radius of action, being able to remain aloft forty-eight hours, in greater carrying capacity and efficiency at night work. There are twenty officers and 120 pilots who have received certificates of proficiency from the Aero Club.

Attached to the flying service altogether are 125 officers and 250 men, and he predicted that the numbers would reach 190 officers and 1,000 or 1,500 men before the end of the year. When he came to the Admiralty two and a half years ago there were nine machines. Five stations have been equipped along the coast with full arrangements for housing machines and quarters for officers and men, and two more are under construction.

"Of course, the heavy seaplanes which we are developing now," the First Lord said, "will carry formidable explosives, which could be dropped on transports. They carry wireless telegraphy, which enables them to signal 120 miles effectively, and they have been quite recently able even to receive a message while in the air."

On the vital topic of the British navy's

steps to introduce oil as fuel for warships and to secure sufficient supplies thereof, the First Lord's explanations were noteworthy principally for what he refused to say. The government maintains the greatest secrecy concerning the location of the oil reserves as well as the source of supply. The sum of \$2,200,000 was asked as an appropriation for the oil reserves, but the First Lord explained that with the cost of tanks and pipe lines to deliver oil at the jetties much more is being spent.

"Oil in quantities has been purchased and is in this country and large quantities will reach us during the period covered by the new estimates," was the most explicit information he consented to give. "The great exertion has been made. There is no difficulty in obtaining oil," he added.

Opposition newspapers have hinted strongly at scandals in connection with oil contracts and accused the government of favoring the capitalists who are its friends. Rupert Gwynne, M. P., pressed Mr. Churchill to publish the contracts and particularly wanted to know whether the Mexican Eagle Company, of which Lord Cowdrey is the head, was among the favored ones.

The First Lord quoted a memorandum from the royal commission which investigated the question of oil fuel, asserting that secrecy regarding naval supplies was necessary. He refused to give the names of contractors and would say only that Mexico is one of the countries from which oil is being obtained.

Some news of the campaign for oil did crop out in the speech. The Admiralty has been building a fleet of oil tank steamers very quietly. Four are already in use and ten more are under way. Large ships which would be in the line of battle during war will continue to depend upon coal, but the Cardiff product has become obsolete already, he said, for light cruisers of the latest type, all of which are equipped with oil-consuming engines. Torpedo boats, destroyers and the smaller craft generally are consuming oil.

The radius of action of a fleet with oil-burning engines would be increased 40 per cent, and the fighting strength of a fleet would be increased 25 per cent, because of the greater facility of refueling at sea in all weathers, so that ships would not be obliged to return to their bases for coaling. The reduction of stockhold force would be 50 per cent. Oil would increase the advantage of a very rapid increase of steam production, and would eliminate the variations of steam pressure necessary for the cleaning of coal-burning furnaces.

ULSTERITES LAUD CARSON

Wire to Him "Brothers in America Are Ready to Fight."

Former residents of Ulster at a meeting in Yonkers Hall, No. 241 West 47th street, yesterday afternoon sent a cable message to Sir Edward Carson, expressing their approval at the course adopted by him as leader in the fight against Home Rule in Ireland.

W. G. Kelly, president of the Ulster Volunteers, was the author of a resolution commending the attitude of the Unionists in their battle "against the enemies of the British crown" and advising them "that their brethren in America stood ready to fight side by side with them until death in the cause of civil and religious liberty." The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Kelly explained that the situation in Ireland was not considered desperate enough to call "the men from Ulster" back to the "fatherland."

Big Fire Laid to Incendiarism.

Portland, Me., March 29.—A loss of \$20,000 resulted from a fire which burned the mill and grain store of the S. W. Thaxter Company, together with a section of the Galt Block warehouse, occupied by that company, to-day. It was the second fire in the warehouse within two weeks. Incendiarism is suspected.

POLITICAL UPLIFT STIRS GRUBER'S LYRE

Appeal to Cohorts to Vie for Fame with Emerson on "Compensation."

'MY NEIGHBOR'S ROSES' SINGS THE COLONEL

He's Optimistic, Too, as Shown in the Verses on "Don't Lose a Chance to Laugh."

In spite of advice from Fourteenth Street, the real political uplift remains as of yore in that section of Manhattan comprised in the 15th Assembly District and lying west of Central Park, between 58th and 107th streets. Moreover, the uplift isn't of Democratic, but of Republican origin, and the Atlas is Colonel Abraham Gruber, the executive member, or leader. Speaking through the captains of the regular Republican organization, the colonel thus addresses the enrolled voters of his party who may or may not look to him for political leadership:

"We beg to present to you this copy of Ralph Waldo Emerson's essay on 'Compensation,' the most thoughtful and, at the same time, most practical essay which fell from the pen of that first of American philosophers. It applies to every phase of life and the occupations of all men.

"This booklet also contains six poems by Mr. Gruber, our executive member, which we are publishing so that his friends, who labor with him in the field of politics, may know what he thinks on matters non-political."

Last year the voters of the 15th were able to add to their libraries Lincoln's "Perils of Republican Form of Government," and the year before ex-Governor Black's "Oration on Lincoln" went forth to them at the expense of the organization. Emerson comes back this year for the second time, having been the apostle of uplift three years ago through the medium of his essay on "Conservation."

Sings Lay for Uplift.

Whatever the merits of Emerson—and others agree with the captains of the colonel's organization that he was an essayist of the first water—poetry gets the call in the current booklet. "Compensation" follows "A New Year's Wish" (Gruber, and doesn't get started until the reader reaches page 7. Once under way, however, Emerson pursues his prosy way, only once through on page 14, halting to get his breath with a bit of verse, and that of only three lines, and not by Gruber.

The colonel's muse is first wooed by an effort to write "My Neighbor's Roses." The idea is plain enough. They understand it down in "Tom" Foley's district, let alone an uptown center of culture, where sordid politics is forgotten in literature except once a year, when some one whose business doesn't take all his time contests the leadership with "Abe." This "contest" is what the other fellow calls it. Presumably saving his thoughts for some time when he'll need a nigger to fill out a perfect lambic pentameter.

Well, the idea of these roses is that, though his neighbor grew them, paid the price in money and labor, still they bloom for "Me," meaning the author. There are three verses, and the last, though it has already been seized upon by an enterprising editorial writer, will bear repetition here for perhaps all readers of newspapers do not scan the editorial pages. Listen:

I know from this that others plant for me,
And what they own, no joy may also be
So when he selfish, when so much that's fine
Is grown for you, upon your neighbor's vine?
Turning the next page, one finds a short bit called "There is Another Chance," which the last "contestant," being naturally an enrolled Republican, may read hopefully.

Mammon Recognized.

"A Few of the Right Sort" looms up. Mammon is recognized as ruler of business life, but not all his minions are yellow; in social life, where much is sham, not every one is yellow; nor is this true in politics, where of the Pharisee and fraud sit high at the feast, so—

It pleases me to feel,
While others rave and tear,
That, though some things are out of joint,
Good folks are everywhere.

Still optimistic at the half-way post, the poet urges, "Don't Lose a Chance to Laugh," thus showing that while he may pretend to be always in good humor, there's an element of the political "com" in his literary labors. "Spring" gets a page in the booklet, but it is so apparent that the verses are not in the poet's best vein that no other mention will be made of them here.

By this time the enrolled Republican voters of the 15th Assembly District must be in a position to embrace with alacrity the final effort of their "boss." Its title has been mentioned before, "A New Year's Wish."

From an advantageous position on a mountain top the colonel looked down upon all living things on the earth and knew their wants. Then the editorial writer has lifted only part of this:

I did for each whatever I deemed best,
And then came back with earth
To live with the content.
But soon I saw that each one had
A wish to live as he found best,
And far off from the way I meant.

And so I wish
That those who ever seek
To make me live as they
Will also to think
And learn from honest truth
Whose is the better way.

Ralph Waldo Emerson to the bar! The jury, voters of the 15th, having considered all the evidence and exhibits, said exhibits being six poems by Gruber, A. do hereby discard the remainder of the booklet before us and render this verdict: "Compensation" shall be its own reward."

Dominican Election This Week.

Santo Domingo, March 29.—General Alfredo Victoria, former Premier, announces his intention of participating with a combination of the supporters of Horacio Vasquez and those of ex-President Eladio Victoria in the elections for President of the republic, which are to be held on Wednesday and Thursday next. He has advised President Bordas Valdez and the Secretary of the Interior of his decision.

In reply the Secretary of the Interior says that all groups which desire to participate in the elections may do so freely, as the government is determined that the elections shall be entirely free and legal.

Let's get together to-night. We'll have a great time solving the Ben Franklin Photographs.

UNIONS WIN RECOGNITION

English Roads to Discuss Conciliation Scheme with Men

(By Cable to The Tribune.) London, March 29.—For the first time a British railway company has recognized the power and responsibility of trade unionism. It was announced on Saturday that a committee of seven railway managers had been appointed to deal with the question of a new conciliation scheme and would be willing to meet jointly the officials of the National Union of Railway Men and the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen.

The news was referred to yesterday by J. H. Thomas, M. P., assistant general secretary of the Railway Men's Union. Addressing a meeting at Birmingham he said that the companies' invitation would be accepted. This development is the latest lesson in the power of the organized worker.

FRENCH MOUNTAIN MOVING

Slides Down Correze Valley, Carrying Away Houses.

Brive, France, March 29.—A large section of a mountain has become detached by seismic disturbances and is slowly sliding down the valley of the Correze, sweeping over everything in its path. Already a number of farms and cottages have been blotted out, and the high roads from Brive and Lantouil have been destroyed for more than a half mile.

Heavy rumblings indicate that the mass is gaining impetus and the inhabitants are fleeing from their houses. Government engineers are seeking a means to limit the extent of the disaster.

"Open Air to Everywhere"

Take a 'bus to the Metropolitan Museum and see the Morgan collections this morning.

Fifth Avenue Coach Co.

KIRBY LEADS BY 8 VOTES

Senatorship Primary Contest Very Close in Arkansas.

Little Rock, Ark., March 29.—Eight votes in a total of 131,112 reported was the narrow margin by which Judge William F. Kirby to-night was leading United States Senator James P. Clarke, his opponent in last Wednesday's primary contest for the Senatorship nomination. When this count was made, at 3 o'clock, about one hundred scattering precincts remained to be heard from. An official canvass of the vote will be made to-morrow in the various counties. Nomination is equivalent to election.

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